

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

JUNE 23, 2009

The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) is a non-profit entity established by the California Public Utilities Commission pursuant to the approval of mergers between SBC-AT&T and Verizon-MCI. The telecommunications companies will contribute \$60 million over five years to CETF to advance broadband Internet throughout California. It is CETF’s mission to close the “Digital Divide” by accelerating the deployment and adoption of broadband to underserved communities and to ensure that California is a global leader in the availability and use of broadband technology.

CETF believes the leadership and support of the Board of Supervisors is essential to the success of accelerating the rate of adoption of broadband throughout Los Angeles County. Many other cities, jurisdictions and civic leaders – including Governor Schwarzenegger, Mayor Villaraigosa and the Los Angeles City Council, LAUSD, City of Pasadena, City of Lynwood, City of Inglewood, City of Bell Gardens, City of Maywood, and the City of South Gate -- have already lent their support to CETF.

The benefit that will come to the County from universal broadband adoption

- MORE -

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
KNABE	_____

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cannot be understated. It will enable our children and youth to obtain the highest quality education possible. In turn, it will improve the quality of our workforce and make our companies more competitive. Further, expanding broadband adoption will reduce dependence on foreign oil and decrease greenhouse emissions. In all, "getting connected" will improve the quality of life of Angelenos.

THEREFORE, I MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

- 1) Declare that 2009 is the year for all LA County residents to "Get Connected"; and
- 2) Encourage Los Angeles County residents to Visit <http://www.getconnectedtoday.com/> to find out more information about the program or to "Get Connected"; and
- 3) Authorize the Chair of the Board to execute the attached resolution which declares 2009 as the year that its residents "Get Connected".

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County of Los Angeles

California Emerging Technology Fund
Get Connected! Year
2009

WHEREAS, the California Emerging Technology Fund was directed to be established by the California Public Utilities Commission to close the Digital Divide and to ensure that California is a global leader in the deployment and adoption of high-speed Internet access and use by all Californians.

WHEREAS, closing the Digital Divide is critical to the County of Los Angeles', the region, and the State's economic recovery and quality of life, specifically in the forms of jobs, education, commerce and opportunity.

WHEREAS, California's fair share of funding from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (ARRA) for broadband deployment, adoption and related applications could be up to \$1 billion, and the ARRA funds will significantly enhance the State's efforts in addressing its comprehensive broadband technology needs;

WHEREAS, almost half of Californians lack high-speed connectivity, including those without access and those who have not adopted the technology. More than 17 million Californians do not have broadband access at home and more than 12 million do not have an internet connection at home.

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles is committed to helping our children and youth obtain the highest quality education possible and understand that digital literacy and high-speed connectivity is a critical component in today's educational environment.

WHEREAS, broadband remains underutilized as a 21st Century technology to reduce dependence on foreign oil and to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and the County of Los Angeles is committed to lowering its carbon footprint in the County of Los Angeles and in the region.

WHEREAS, working with the California Emerging Technology Fund and the Get Connected! program, the County of Los Angeles can take part in executing the national call for rapid broadband deployment, job generation, educational excellence and a green economy.

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the County of Los Angeles close the Digital Divide and, in so doing, close the opportunity and economic divide, by investing in efforts to help all residents get connected to high speed Internet networks.

WHEREAS, the County will include broadband connectivity in its outreach materials and assist constituents in their efforts to access e-government applications.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles declare that 2009 is the year that all County residents must "Get Connected!"

Approved and adopted this 23rd day of June, 2009.

APPROVED AS TO FROM:

ROBERT E. KALUNIAN
Acting County Counsel

Leela Kapur
LEELA A. KAPUR
Chief Deputy County Counsel

By:

Don Kinabe
DON KINABE
Chairman
County of Los Angeles

ATTEST:

SACHI A. HAMAI
Executive Officer of the
Board of Supervisors



By:

[Signature]
Deputy